

The New York Times

Results Plus

Track and Field

A World Best For Villanova

The women's distance medley relay team from Villanova recorded a world's best time of 10 minutes 48.38 seconds yesterday at the Penn Relays in Philadelphia. The Villanova quartet was challenged by Texas for two legs of the race and then gradually ran away from the field, winning by about 150 meters and beating last-place Boston College by a more than lap.

Florida took second in 11:14.33, with Texas fading to third at 11:15.93. Villanova shattered its record of 10:53.27 set at the Penn relays of 1984. The mark is a world's best and not a world's record because the medley is not an international event.

Kathy Framey led off for the all-junior team on the 1,200-meter leg and handed a 10-meter lead to Michele Bennett after a 3:20.9. Leslie Hardison of Texas reduced the Villanova margin to about a stride in the 400 as Bennett passed to Celeste Halliday after 52.8. Halliday immediately pulled away as she ran the 800 leg in 2:04.7. When Vicki Huber took the baton for the anchor leg, Villanova was 100 meters in front.

Golf

Floyd Is Tied With Norman



Greg Norman reacting to putt on the 18th hole in first round at The Woodlands, Tex.

Greg Norman and Raymond Floyd, taking advantage of moist early-morning greens, each fired a seven-under par 65 yesterday to share a one-shot first-round lead in the Independent Insurance Agent Open in The Woodlands, Tex. They held the lead over Hal Sutton, who overcame afternoon winds for a six-under-par 66 that could have been lower had he made a pair of putts on the third and fourth holes.

Mike Donald birdied three holes on the front nine and played steadily on the back for a five-under 67. Duffy Waldorf, Tim Simpson, Mike Sullivan, Brian Tennyson, David Ogrin and George Burns were tied at four-under 68.

Tennis

Easy Match For Becker

Top-seeded Boris Becker of West Germany breezed past Tim Nijssen of the Netherlands, 6-2, 6-4, yesterday to advance to the quarterfinals of German Open tournament in Hamburg, West Germany. Second-seeded Kent Carlsson of Sweden also had an easy time in the third round, sweeping past Tore Meinecke of West Germany, 6-4, 6-2.

But other seeds struggled to reach the last eight. Joakim Nystrom of Sweden, seeded fourth, prevailed over countryman Christian Bergstrom, 5-7, 7-6, 6-1. Fifth-seeded Henri Leconte of France, the 1986 German Open winner, outlasted West German clay-court specialist Hansjoerg Schwaier, 7-5, 2-6, 7-6.

Becker	6 6	Nystrom	5 7 6
Nijssen	2 4	Bergstrom	7 6 1
Carlsson	6 6	Leconte	7 2 7
Meinecke	4 2	Schwaier	5 6 6

Shriver Gains

Top-seeded Pam Shriver of the United States needed 46 minutes yesterday to beat Leila Meskhi of the Soviet Union, 6-0, 6-2, in the second round of the Toray Pan Pacific Open tournament in Fuji-sawa, Japan. After taking the first set in 17 minutes, Shriver broke Meskhi's service in the second, sixth and eighth games. Meskhi, ranked 30th in the world, broke Shriver's serve only once. Shriver will meet Peanut Harper of the United States in the quarterfinals today. Earlier, Anne Minter of Australia struggled to defeat Gigi Fernandez of the United States, 1-6, 6-4, 6-2.

In Isle of Palms, S.C., yesterday, seventh-seeded Jimmy Arias reached the quarterfinals of the United States Men's Clay Court Championships, beating Jaime Yzaga 7-6, 6-2.

Orioles' 21st Straight Loss Sets League Record

MINNEAPOLIS, April 28 (AP) — The Baltimore Orioles set an American League record today by losing their 21st straight game, a 4-2 loss to the Minnesota Twins.

The Orioles went meekly but not neatly. They had six hits against Allan Anderson and two relievers. After Eddie Murray's leadoff double in the fourth, they did not get another hit until Murray led off the eighth with a single. At the same time, Baltimore committed two errors, and Mike Boddicker walked six and hit three batters.

Baltimore (0-21) is the worst-hitting team in the majors at .201, including .134 with runners in scoring position, and has been outscored by 129-44 this season.

Anderson, recalled from the minors on Monday and making his first appearance, settled down after a shaky start.

Anderson (1-0) went six and one-third innings, giving up four hits. He issued a lead-off walk to Larry Sheets in the seventh and departed one out later after throwing two balls to Craig Worthington. Mike Mason completed the walk, and then walked Keith Hughes and Tito Landrum, forcing home a run.

A lack of clutch hitting again was the Orioles' downfall as they blew their biggest chance in the seventh. After the four walks forced home Sheets to make the score 4-2, Mark Portugal struck out Fred Lynn, a pinch-hitter, and got Cal Ripken on a weak fly ball to end the threat.

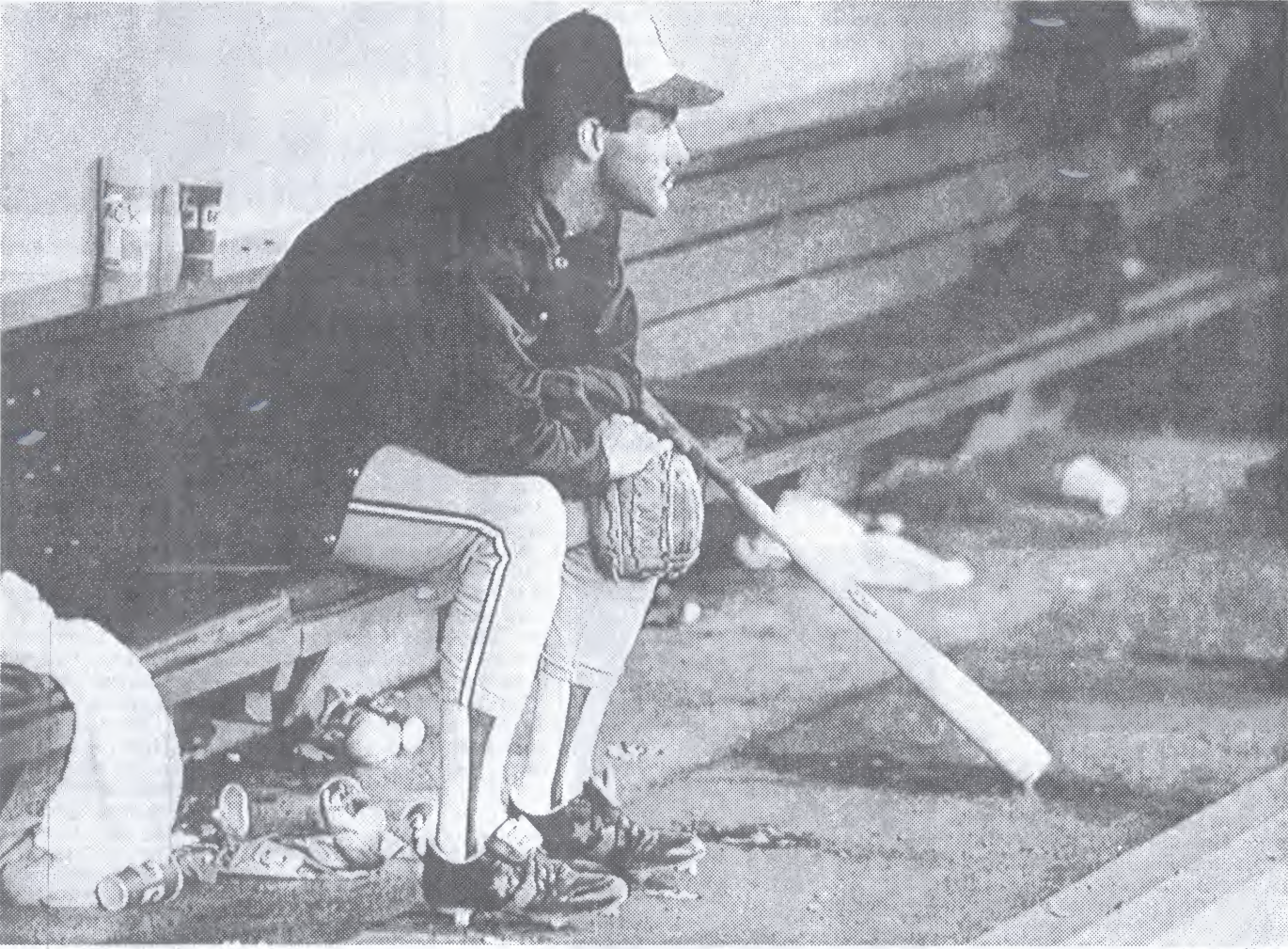
Baltimore broke the league record of 20 consecutive losses set by Boston in 1906 and tied by the Philadelphia Athletics in 1916 and again in 1943.

Next in line is the modern record of 23 straight losses by the 1961 Philadelphia Phillies. Baltimore begins a three-game series in Chicago Friday night.

Boddicker (0-5) lost for a team-record 10th straight time since his last victory on Sept. 4. He gave up a two-run homer to Kent Hrbek in the fourth inning that wiped out a 1-0 lead, and yielded John Moses' two-run double in the sixth.

Hrbek continued to pound Baltimore pitching, going 3 for 3 with a walk. Hrbek went 7 for 11 with his first four home runs of the season in the three-game series.

Boddicker was in constant trouble and



Mike Boddicker, the Orioles' starting pitcher, in the dugout after loss to the Twins yesterday in Minneapolis.

hurt himself with a leadoff walk to Kirby Puckett in the fourth. Hrbek followed with a line-drive homer deep to right field.

Boddicker wriggled from a bases-loaded jam in the fifth by striking out Greg Gagne and Tom Nieto and finished the fifth by retiring Gary Gaetti on a grounder with two

runners on base.

In the sixth, Gene Larkin was hit by a pitch and Randy Bush walked. After a sacrifice and a strikeout, Moses hit a fly ball that hit the base of the fence in right field. Hughes, who is playing his first series in the majors and turned Hrbek's popup into a

double in the second inning, broke in on Moses' ball and watched it sail past him.

Pirates 2, Giants 1

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Darnell Coles's bloop run-scoring single in the 10th inning gave Pittsburgh the victory.

The Pirates, who won for the 13th time in their last 16 games, had only four hits and did not get a runner on base until the sixth, when Mike LaValliere led off with an infield single off Kelly Downs, the Giants' starter.

The run in the 10th was charged to Craig Lefferts (1-1) and was the first off the reliever in seven games this season.

Bobby Bonilla opened the inning with a bloop single to center and was sacrificed to second by Sid Bream. Don Robinson then relieved Lefferts and gave up the game-winning hit, which went into short right field just over the glove of Robby Thompson, the second baseman.

Jeff Robinson (2-0) pitched three and two-thirds innings of one-hit relief. Jim Gott registered the last out to pick up his third save. Downs gave up two hits in eight innings while striking out seven and walking one.

Cardinals 6, Padres 4

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Tom Brunansky hit two homers as part of an 11-hit attack for St. Louis.

Brunansky, traded from Minnesota to St. Louis April 22 for Tommy Herr, hit a two-run homer in the second inning off Ed Whitson and a bases-empty homer in the fifth off Mark Grant. He has three homers in his last two games.

George Vecsey/Sports of The Times

Boomerangers Kick the Habit

It is hard to tell which is more of a surprise: that the United States actually has a team going to the World Cup of boomerang competition, or that the United States team is actually sponsored by the forces of good health.

But both are true. Three Americans are leaving early next week to compete with six other nations in the World Cup of boomerang, to be held in — roight, mate, you guessed it — Australia.

Much of their modest funding comes from a Houston-based group called DOC (Doctors Ought to Care), which warns of the dangers of smoking. The United States competitors say they turned down a \$12,000 offer from a tobacco company on principle.

"I'm asthmatic," said Eric Darnell, one of the American boomerangers. "I get off an airplane feeling totally polluted. I couldn't see wearing the logo of a cigarette company."

Much of the big money in sports these days comes from products that can ruin your liver, your lungs or your teeth. Athletes compete with logos on their uniforms, or perform with giant beer, cigarette and soda advertisements looming over them.

The message to spectators is clear: sit on your foam cushion, watch somebody else sweat, and use the sponsor's product, which will leave you in worse shape than when you began.

You couldn't even call it insidious. A recovering alcoholic, struggling day by day to maintain his sobriety, could whack a homer, and the huckster in the broadcast booth would shriek, "Hey, ———, this Bud's for you."

Or an outfielder with a parent stricken with cigarette-related emphysema could make a catch in front of a giant cigarette advertisement. With American soccer in the malodorous embrace of a cigarette firm, one can only dread the bombardment of youthful soccer players if the United States is awarded the 1994 World Cup.

But the most immediate World Cup is the first one for the boomerang, to be held in a corner of New South Wales called Barrooga.

Wearing an emblem with two no-smoking logos superimposed on a boomerang, three Americans — Darnell, Chet Snouffer and Barnaby Ruhe — will compete on May 8, 11 and 14 against teams from West Germany, France, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Japan and the host country.

"Boomeranging, pardon the expression, is taking off," said Darnell, who has been the Johnny Appleseed of the sport in this country.

Competition will be in six events: maximum time aloft, fast catch, Aussie round (five throws with varying wind), accuracy, consecutive catches of increasing difficulty and team relays.

"Our sport needs lung power," said Darnell. "To be sponsored by cigarettes would seem to be a contradiction in terms."

As a child, fascinated by the wind, Darnell made gliders and then boomerangs out of wood. (Now they are all made of polypropylene, which is more malleable.) Darnell later teamed up with Benjamin Ruhe, the uncle of his current teammate, to write a book, "Boomerang: How to Throw, Catch and Make Them," which has sold over 100,000 copies. At 43, he is ranked second to Snouffer in American competition.

While Australian aborigines "kept it alive for 10,000 years," Darnell notes, other weapons and toys of a boomerang's curved shape have been found in excavations in Egypt, Poland, the Netherlands, Florida and Arizona.

"The first time I went to Australia, I was surprised to see all the throwers are of British descent," Darnell said. "My biggest fantasy is to throw a glow-in-the-dark boomerang from the top of Ayers Rock, near Alice Springs, which is a sacred place to the aborigines."

But first they will compete in the World Cup, sponsored by DOC rather than a cigarette company.

"Pelé is one of my heroes because I played high-school soccer," Darnell said. "It makes me sad to see him wearing T-shirts for a tobacco company. I detest the image of a baseball player standing on the field, spitting tobacco juice."

Needing a sponsor, Darnell was put in touch with Dr. Alan Blum, the coordinator of health promotion at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Dr. Blum had been the editor of the Medical Journal of Australia and the New York State Journal of Medicine.

When he was based in his native Nassau County, Dr. Blum persuaded more than 7,000 doctors to pay between \$10-\$25 for annual dues to DOC for what he calls "pro-health, not anti-smoking" activities. Some members of DOC in Nebraska held a fund-raising Dead Man Chewing Tobacco Softball Tournament. Doctors in Houston and Georgia raised money with an Emphysema Slims Tennis Tournament.

"Why not have a counterbalance?" Dr. Blum said. "The powerful pseudo-masculine connection between cigarettes and athletics has never been broken. Until recently, athletes could be in cigarette ads. Where is the redress for the damage they did?"

The news is not all bad. Airlines in the United States now ban smoking on flights of less than two hours. New York City has tough new rules against smoking, although with the awareness of city government, sports reporters continue to smoke in press boxes, another sign of the vicious grip of tobacco on the sports industry.



Eric Darnell, a U.S. boomerang team member, practicing in Strafford, Vt.

Tomorrow

Independent Insurance Agent Open Golf

Live! 1:30 pm

TOP PGA PROS COMPETE!

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The Year's Kingpin Event!

Live! 3pm

USA vs Cuba

THE SUPER POWERS OF AMATEUR BOXING!

Live! 4:30 pm

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